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SUBJECT: DAILY IRAQI WEBSITE MONITORING - September 6, 2005

SUMMARY: Discussion on the Constitution was the major editorial theme of Iraqi, Arabic language websites on September 6, 2005. END SUMMARY.

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SELECTED COMMENTARIES

- [1A.](#) "Sunni Arab Papers on Iraq's Constitution"
(Editorial by Yacoub Jaber Iraq4all News -
<http://iraq4all.org/viewnews.php?id=9677>)

"The ones who welcome approval of Iraq's constitution will be deeply disappointed in mid-October when Iraqis vote on the constitution. Sunni Arab, with some of Shiite supporters, will certainly vote against the constitution in at least three Iraqi provinces and they will turn it into a meaningless document that should be modified to gain unanimous agreement and attain relevance.

"Sunni Arabs form the majority in four provinces and they will be persistent in rejecting a constitution which is practically dedicated to the actual division of Iraq. If that won't happen, and it's unlikely, Sunni Arabs will join the resistance to fight those who adopted the constitution and the occupation. Then conditions in Iraq will seriously deteriorate.

"The constitution which was intended to be a tool to strengthen stability will turn into a tool for killing and propagating violence to an extent Iraq hasn't witnessed since the American invasion.

"It's not difficult to understand the reasons that make Sunni Arabs vote against the constitution or joining the resistance because this constitution was drafted by people opposing Sunni Arabs. The Americans with flagrant and tacit instigation wanted to deprive Sunni Arabs from wealth and power. What will remain for Sunni Arabs if the North with its Kurdish inhabitants and South with its oil and Shiite inhabitants separate? What they are going to do in the arid, resource devoid center when others will manipulate Iraq's destinies and domestic and foreign policies? It's obvious now that the Kurds and Shiites will exact retaliation against the Sunni Arabs who ruled Iraq for decades.

"It's normal that Sunni Arabs resorted to a resistance against federalism which they consider a disaster. If Sunni Arabs vote against the constitution then they will strike out against U.S. schemes--if they cancel the constitution which the U.S. wants to become a victory slogan that it could raise in front of the opposition and naysayers. We all hope Sunni Arab resistance to the constitution won't transcend the peaceful resistance demonstrated through voting. Perhaps the parliament still has time to make radical modifications to the constitution to take into consideration some Sunni Arab demands to establish peace and calm for Iraqis."

- [1B.](#) "A Remarkable Though Twisted Improvement"
(Editorial by Al-Bayan
<http://www.albayan.ae/servlet/Satellite?cid=1125289799432&pageName=Albayan%2FArticle%2FFullDetail&c=Article>)

"According to reports of well informed sources; the final agreement among concerned parties was to alter the article regarding Iraqi identity in draft constitution. The original article stated "Iraqi Arabs are part of the Arab world," i.e. Iraq as a country isn't an Arab country. The new article became, "Iraq is part of the Arab and Islamic world."

"This change is a step forward, though a twisted one, in the

criteria of the current conditions and situations in Iraq. It gives an Arab identity to the whole country with its Arab and Kurdish inhabitants. This will save Iraq from future division if anyone thinks of trying to separate the country.

"Guaranteeing Iraq's unity in a constitutional document comprises the first solid step in this mission. In addition to this, agreement on identity could assist in creating tighter knit societies that might offer some concessions on other contentious points, especially the issue of federalism. Salvation in Iraq depends on agreement and consensus among Iraqis in this crucial moment in its history."

[C](#). "The Constitution & Privatization of Iraq"
(Editorial by Hameed Al-Sadoon, Iraq4all News
<http://iraq4all.org>)

"No one disagrees about the importance of the constitution of any nation being a social contract to deal with the present and future, which should include all people by 'protecting the country's land, people, and sovereignty,' but even this simple phrase is nowhere to be found in our draft constitution.

"Any reading of the draft will reveal its intention to trash the identity and history of Iraq, sending it back centuries. The proposed constitution aims to transfer Iraq into a state with only one society with Arab allegiance which represents an invitation to Iraq's minorities to find another entity or country to protect their interests.

"What the Iraqi constitutional committee has finally reached is nothing more than privatizing the political, social, and humanitarian segments of Iraq, and an urge for others to follow the same path under the supervision and encouragement of occupation. Subjects such as federalism, national allegiance, and natural resources shouldn't be solved in a hasty manner based on a U.S. agenda to meet Washington's deadlines, but should be discussed in a way that includes the participation and agreement of all.

"Those who dream of achieving federalism the Swiss way overlook generations of history acquired only after much blood was shed among them. Thank God this has been averted by our people where no religious, sectarian, or racial massacres have ever occurred in our history.

"The draft constitution represents a recipe for differences and not agreements. So October 15th in these critical times is an invitation for dividing Iraq under many names, all of which come with the occupation's tanks."

[D](#). "To the Drafters of the Constitution"
(Editorial by Ali Al-Butaihi, Iraqi Home
<http://www.iraqihome.com>)

"Has the Secretary General of the Arab League, Amr Musa, become part of Iraqi society? We need to understand this. And why should Iraqis concede what they have agreed upon to a foreigner such as the Egyptian, Amr Musa. And what does the Arab League have to do with the Iraqi constitution, why doesn't the head of the Islamic conference interfere with the draft claiming Islam has been compromised in Iraq and that Islamic identity is under threat since no reference was made regarding Iraq being a founding member of the Islamic conference.

"And shouldn't the constitution's drafters, and only them, come to agreement regarding what's Iraqi? And without the Arab League, foreigners, Amr Musa, or the Egyptians who are surviving on Iraqi blood and sending all of their unemployed to Iraq.

"And who gave the constitutional committee members the right to draft a constitution according to Egyptian desires and those of other Arab countries exporting terrorism to Iraq, and benefiting from the destruction of this country while murdering Iraqis? Weren't Egyptians the main beneficiaries of Iraqis dying in the war with Iran, when Saddam wouldn't have been able to launch such a war without millions of Egyptians coming into the country and living on its natural resources, marrying Iraqi women, and committing all sorts of crimes including rape?

"Countries memberships in international associations aren't considered legitimate without a referendum. When European countries aspire to join the European Union they hold a referendum to gain the approval of their people, so who solicited Iraqi's opinions in joining the Arab League? This membership is illegitimate since no one took Iraqis' opinion on the subject.

"Musa should speak out frankly with no shame, he wants to know how much Iraqi oil will end up in Egypt, just how many

unemployed Egyptians will be sent to Iraq, and how many Iraqi women will marry Egyptians and bestow Iraqi nationality to their children.

"What have we gained from the Arab League other than the Ba'ath party that dug mass graves for Iraqis (especially the Shiites)? What have we gained beside extremist groups such as the likes of Zarqawi and others? What have we gained other than destruction?

What have we gained other than Iraqi wives abandoned by Egyptian husbands, human body part dealers, drug dealers, and corruption through the oil for food program?

"May God save Iraqis from the plots of Egyptians, Palestinians, Iranians, Turks, and other foreigners leading suicide attacks and murders such as bin-Laden, Al-Zarqawi, Al-Dhwahiri, and others . Amen."

Khalilzad